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simple thread, the authoress has contrived to string together a number of incidents which will sufficiently amuse the young reader, so to gain his attention to the moral they convey. On the whole, she has produced a very instructive and interesting tale. In the name of the young ladies and gentlemen of Ireland, we cannot but thank her.

The Military Bijou, or the contents of a Soldier's Knapsack; being the Gleanings of Thirty-three years Active Service. By John Shipp, Author of his own Memoirs. Two vols.—London—Whitaker, Treacher and Co.—1831.

Among the glaciers and icy precipices of the Alps, the boundaries of fertility and cultivation and of eternal and never-thawing barrenness are but a few feet divided; in the same way, the warm and gushing stream of imagination may be suddenly chilled and congealed in its flow, and the genius which penned Waverley and the Antiquary, can also blot paper with the Monastery and —, but we will stop. Such were our reflections, as we laid down the "Military Bijou," which, but for the title page, we could not believe ever to be written by John Shipp of the 87th; his extraordinary military career we had read with feelings of admiration, pride, and enthusiasm; we beheld him leading on "the forlorn hope," entering the deadly breach like another Coriolanus; we heard the *pas de charge*—we lost him in the smoke, the hurry, the groanings of the *mêlée*—and we wept over him as he lay in the cold trench, feeling more acutely the agony of disappointment and discomfiture, than the pang of his stiffening and unbanded wounds.

The soldier "bearded like the pard," and the "slipped pantaloons," are not more dissimilar than the *unus et idem* author of these two publications. We confess when we waded through the labels of his wares, so ostentatiously puffed in the "United Service," we hazarded a tolerably exact guess at the intrinsic value of the articles. Like Antolius in the Hunt-

er's Tale, we may exclaim, "I have sold all my trumpery, not a counterfeit stone, not a ribbon, glass, pomanda, pouch, table-book, ballad, knife," &c. not one left—they are all gone: he has inflicted on the heads of an unoffending nation a most villanous dose—a compound of noisome dregs and sickly sentimentalism, and shreds from obsolete and forgotten tomes, (we do not mean the adventurer to whom he is largely indebted), garnished by numerous extracts from Joseph Miller, Esq. We have parodies on poor Serjeant Bothwell's Memoranda, and serjeants' wives asking wounded gentlemen, "are you from Albion's isle?"—all the vulgar and regimental slang of a corps is committed "to a generous public," in order that Mr. John Shipp, so he tells us himself, may hook the fish on which depends his dinner.

However, we will not particularize his wants. The reader can make his own selection, and we will merely indulge in an extract or two, and commence with the "Forlorn Hope." "A strong fortress is about to be stormed—an officer steps forward as candidate to head twelve volunteers (privates) to lead the column of attack—stand the brunt of shot, shell, rocket and explosion; and his little band are exposed to the fire of the whole fort in all directions—he cannot fall back—he must proceed—must mount the breach—the eyes of all are upon you—where one escapes, a hundred fall—when fled the three forlorn hopes at Bhurtpore, all were killed save myself and one man of the 76th. A soldier standing in a valley eating the allowance, a musket ball carried it away—enraged, he turned on a comrade who was standing by, and hit him a violent blow over the back for the supposed spoliation, but, on looking at his finger and thumb, saw the bleeding, and thereby discovered the real thief—a ball."

We are sorry to see some hits aimed at chaplains, and ill-natured stories told of certain Rev. Gentlemen who were rather addicted to the jolly god—we should hope they are exaggerated.

## VARIETIES—LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC.

*Greek Antiquities in India.*—The Chevalier Ventura, formerly in the French army, and now a general in the service of Runjeet Singh, was encamped, in April last, near Manekiala, or Manicysla, where there are the ruins of a large city. The place is seventy-two miles east of the Indus, and thirty or forty west of the Jhyllum or Hydaspes, in lat. 33° 23' north, and long. 73° 15' east. In Elphinstone's

*Cabul*, the very remarkable stone cupola, on the top of a solid mound, which is believed by the natives to have been built by the gods, is described as bearing a much greater resemblance to Greek than to Hindoo architecture. General Ventura made an opening into the cupola, and, on digging three feet, he found six medals; and afterwards the workmen came to a chamber of hewn stone, twelve feet square.

The excavation was continued to the depth of thirty-six feet, and another opening was afterwards made in the north side of the cupola, and more than eighty medals were found. Most of them were copper, but some were gold and silver. There were also other curiosities, rings, and boxes containing liquids. We understand that the Chevalier intends to transmit an account of his praiseworthy labours and discoveries to the Asiatic Society. Perhaps this may be the site of some of the cities that were founded by Alexander or Seleucus, in the dominions of Taxiles.—*Bengal Hurkaru.*

*Madame de Genlis.*—This celebrated writer died at Paris on the 24th of December, at a very advanced age.

*The French Clergy.*—It appears by a statement recently published in the *Gazette des Cultes*, that the donations and legacies in favour of the French clergy amounted in 1829 to 4,268,927 francs. The total sum for the first half year was 10,440f.; and for the second, the period during which M. de Polignac was at the head of the ministry, 4,172,750f. During the four preceding years, 20,750,984f. had been received for the same object:—so that the clergy have obtained in donations, &c. independent of what is allotted them by the state, more than 25,000,000f. The ministers of the Protestant Church received in donations during the last year, 55,491f.; the hospitals, 2,683,578f.; the parishes, 585,639f.; the department of public instruction, 105,580f.; and the *Monts-de-Piété*, 2,000f. The department of the Seine contributed to the above sums, during 1829, viz. for the clergy, 29,631f.; for hospitals, 201,857f.; and for the parishes, 21,000f. Recently it has been resolved to allow stipends to the Jewish teachers, the same as to Catholics or Protestants.

*Russian Sugar.*—In October, 1829, there was established a company at Toul; and in June, 1830, another at Romena, for the cultivation of beet-root, and the manufacture of sugar.

*Georgian Literature.*—In June last there was established at Tiflis a reading library, which is also the first bookseller's shop that was ever opened in that town. Two journals are at present regularly published in Tiflis, one in the Russian language, twice a week; the other in the Persian language, weekly.

*Russian Commerce.*—It appears, from official returns, that in the years 1827, 1828, and 1829, the total value of the importations into Russia amounted to about 693,600,000 rubles; that of the exportations, 647,000,000; and that the commercial shipping engaged in trade amounted to 27,987 vessels, of which 2,145 sailed under Russian colours.

*New Parisian College.*—It is in contem-

plation to found a college at Paris, on a large scale, for the purpose of instructing youth, from the different independent states of South America, in all the various branches of human knowledge. It would seem as if some political object mingled with the motives of the friends of this project.

*Fossil Shells in the Snowy Mountains of Thibet.*—At a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta, on the 5th May last, extracts from Mr. Gerard's letters, relative to the fossil shells collected by him in his late tour over the snowy mountains of the Thibet frontier, were read. The loftiest altitude at which he picked up some of them, was on the crest of a pass, elevated 17,000 feet; and here also were fragments of rock, bearing the impression of shells, which must have been detached from the contiguous peaks rising far above the elevated level. Generally, however, the rocks formed of these shells are at an altitude of 16,000 feet, and one cliff was a mile in perpendicular height, above the nearest level. Mr. Gerard farther states:—"Just before crossing the boundary of Ludak into Bussahir, I was exceedingly gratified by the discovery of a bed of fossil oysters, clinging to the rock as if they had been alive." In whatever point of view we are to consider the subject, it is sublime to think of millions of organic remains lying at such an extraordinary altitude, and of vast cliffs of rocks formed out of them, Trowning over these illimitable and desolate wastes, where the ocean once rolled.—*Asiatic Register.*

*Bone Caves discovered in New Holland.*—Colonel Lindsay of the 39th Regiment, a very active and intelligent inquirer, informs us of the discovery of great quantities of fossil bones of animals, imbedded in marl and other substances, in caves in New Holland. Some of these animals (quadrupeds), judging from the size of the bones, must have been very large,—a circumstance the more remarkable, because hitherto no large quadrupeds have been found in Australia.

*Leonhard on the Basaltic Formation.*—Professor Leonhard of Heidelberg informs us, that he has now in the press a work on Basaltic or Trap rocks, which will appear in two volumes octavo, with numerous sections and maps. It will be the most complete work on this very interesting subject which has hitherto been presented to the public. It will appear during the course of 1831.

*On the Existence of Animalcula in Snow.*—The following account was sent by Dr. J. E. Mure, in a letter to Dr. Silliman. When the winter had made considerable progress, without much frost, there happened a very heavy fall of snow. Apprehending that I might not have an opportunity of filling my house with ice, I

threw in snow, perhaps enough to fill it. There was afterwards severely cold weather, and I filled the remainder with ice. About August, the waste and consumption of the ice brought us down to the snow, when it was discovered that a glass of water which was cooled with it, contained hundreds of animalcules. I then examined another glass of water out of the same pitcher, and, with the aid of a microscope, before the snow was put into it, found it perfectly clear and pure; the snow was then thrown into it, and, on solution, the water again exhibited the same phenomenon, hundreds of animalcules, visible to the naked eye with acute attention, and, when viewed through the microscope, resembling most diminutive shrimps, and wholly unlike the eels discovered in the the acetous acid, were seen in the full enjoyment of animated nature. I caused holes to be dug in several parts of the mass of snow in the ice-house, and to the centre of it, and, in the most unequivocal and repeated experiments, had similar results; so that my family did not again venture to introduce the snow-ice into the water they drank, which had been a favourite method, but used it as an external refrigerant for the pitcher. These little animals may class with the amphibia which have cold blood, and are generally capable, in a low temperature, of a torpid state of existence. Hence their icy immersion did no violence to their constitution, and the possibility of their revival by heat is well sustained by analogy; but their generation, their parentage, and their extraordinary transmigration, are to me subjects of profound astonishment.

*Meetings of the French "Académie Royale des Sciences"—Election of a secretary.*

June 7th and 28th, 1830.—On the first of these days, M. Arago was elected perpetual secretary for the mathematical section, in the place of M. Fourier, deceased; and on the second, the confirmation of the election by the king, was communicated to the academy by the minister of the Interior.

This election adds another illustrious name to the list of secretaries of that learned body; and, whilst we express our gratification at such a wise choice, we cannot refrain from hating to the fellows of the corresponding society in these kingdoms—we mean the Royal Society—that it would greatly tend to advance the present, or rather restore the ancient celebrity of that society, were some portion of the ambition now directed towards the presidency transferred to the office of secretary.

Can there be any reason why names equally distinguished as that of Arago, should not be found competing for an office which ought to be considered worthy of pursuit; when in France it is adorned and accepted as an honour by such men as Baron Cuvier and M. Arago?

*Meeting of July 26th.*—At this meeting was announced the manner in which the various prizes, placed by liberal individuals at the disposal of the academy, had been distributed. Of these, one was founded by M. de Montyon, in favour of "the person who should, by his inventions, lessen the risk to health, in the practice of any art or trade;" and, in this instance, it was awarded to M. le Chevalier Aldini, considering his invention for enabling firemen in extensive conflagrations to pass without injury through the flames, to come within the meaning of M. de Montyon, not merely as it might occasionally operate in favour of the firemen themselves, but as, by enabling them to penetrate into places already surrounded by flames, it might facilitate the rescue of others. With these views the Académie des Sciences awarded, both as an encouragement, and as a partial recompence for very heavy expences incurred by the chevalier, the sum of 8000 francs, or about £333. Our readers will perhaps excuse us, for adding to the above a few remarks on the principle of M. Aldini's invention, particularly as some may see in it only the incombustibility of the asbestos dress, and not remember that the object sought for, is the preservation of the body it envelopes. It is now some years since the investigations of Sir Humphrey Davy,\* on flame, and the admirable invention consequent on them—of the safety lamp. Our object is not to go deeply into this subject: we shall therefore merely state, that from Sir Humphrey's experiments it appeared that the several flames, resulting from the combustion of different gaseous bodies, required for their maintenance very varied degrees of heat; and hence, that if by any extraneous body brought in contact or near to it, a part of the heat of any flame could be drawn off, and its temperature be thereby sufficiently lowered, the flame would be extinguished, and combustion cease.† On this principle, the safety lamp is constructed. The burning wick is surrounded by a cylinder of iron or copper gauze, through the apertures of which combustible gases may freely penetrate, and, igniting at the wick, burn within the cylinder—and only within; for as the flame approaches the gauze, its heat is rapidly abstracted by the metallic tissue, and sinks below the point essential for combustion;

\* Mr. Tennant preceded Sir H. Davy in these researches; but his experiments, being unpublished, were unknown to Sir Humphrey.

† The article Combustion, in Ure's Chemical Dictionary, is full of instruction.

hence it is extinguished, and passes not to the exterior. The size of the apertures depends necessarily on the nature of the flame to be extinguished, as the metallic surface must be in proportion to the quantity of heat it has to abstract. Le Chevalier Aldini proceeds on the same principle. The dress of asbestos gauze prevents, by extinguishing it, the passage of the flame; but as it does so by abstracting its heat, the temperature of the gauze itself must rise, and quickly become insupportable. In the safety lamp, by a proper attention to the size of the wire, the radiation from the gauze to the surrounding atmosphere so far balances the heat received, as to keep the temperature below that point at which it would produce combustion amongst the gases around. In the case before us the difficulty is greater, since the flames surround the body to be guarded from them; and the heat acquired by the asbestos dress, can only pass off to the body within it. Hence it is necessary (as M. Aldini does) to interpose between the asbestos and the human body, an inner garment of thick padded woollen stuff, which, being a bad conductor of heat, prolongs the possible time of exposure to

the flames, by retarding the passage of heat from the asbestos to the body. In short, the asbestos gauze preserves the body from being scorched; the padded woollen vest, secures it from being baked.

*On the Production of Magnetism by Friction.*—Friction has been long known to be capable of producing magnetism, but it was not supposed to be efficacious, unless upon iron either magnetised or in a neutral state. M. Haldat of Nancey has, however, found that all hard bodies may, by means of friction, assist in the decomposition of the magnetic fluid, if their action is promoted by the combined action of magnets, which, by themselves, are incapable of producing it. To prove this, take a piece of soft iron wire, a decimeter long, (about four inches,) and a millimeter (1-25th of an inch,) in diameter. If this wire is placed horizontally between two bar magnets, with their opposite poles facing one another, and at such a distance that it cannot be magnetised, it will receive distinct magnetism by friction with all hard bodies, such as copper, brass, zinc, glass, hard woods, &c.—*Ann. de Chim.* xlii. p. 41.

## MONTHLY RECORD OF MILITARY PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, &c.

### To be Lieutenant Colonel.

13th Lt. Dragoons, Major M. Bowers, vice Boyse, retired.

### To be Majors.

4th Lt. Dragoons, Captain W. Havelock,	vice Brown, retired.
7th ————— Dundas,	vice Shirley, do.
13th ————— E. G. Taylor,	vice Bowers.
15th Foot, ————— T. A. Drought,	vice Eden, promoted.
23d ————— Holmes,	vice Fielking, dead.
68th ————— Brevet-Major North,	vice Gledstane, do.
89th ————— Captain J. Barrett,	vice Cressh, promoted.

### To be Captains and Lieutenant Colonels.

1st Gren. Foot Gds. Lt. and Capt. Hon. F. H. Needham,	vice Vernon, retired.
————— Thornton,	vice M'Gregor, do.
3d Foot Guards, ————— T. Wedgwood,	vice Talbot, do.

### To be Captains.

Royal Horse Grds. Lieut. Cosby,	vice Harrison, retired.
1st Dragoon Grds. ————— Tysen,	vice Smith, ditto.
————— Ponsonby,	vice Kingston, promoted.
————— J. B. Morris,	vice Skinner, who retires.
4th Lt. Dragoons, ————— Sir K. A. Jackson, Bart.	vice Havelock.
7th Lt. Dragoons, ————— Bathurst,	
12th ————— W. F. Hamilton,	vice Beresford.
13th ————— W. D. Hamilton,	vice Taylor.
15th Foot, ————— R. L. Batterby,	vice Drought.
19th ————— Captain Beckham, from 1st W. I. R.	vice Hamilton, promoted.
23d ————— Lieutenant Gourlay,	
63d ————— Lieutenant Fry,	vice Hughes, dead.
68th ————— Captain Vivian, from h. p.	vice North.
75th ————— Lieutenant J. H. H. Boys,	vice Welch, retired.
————— Captain Welch, from h. p.	vice King, who exchanges rec. difference
76th ————— J. H. Anstruther, from h. p.	vice Smart, who exchanges rec. difference
78th ————— Lieutenant J. Taylor,	vice Lardy, deceased.
89th ————— Halliday,	vice Barnett.
1st West India Reg. Capt. Fitzpatrick, from h. p. 85th F.	vice Beckham, 15th Foot.
————— Stewart, from h. p.	vice Fitzpatrick, retired.
————— G. H. Fitzpatrick, from h. p. 37 F.	vice A. F. Evans, who exchanges.
2d West India Reg. ————— R. Hughes, from h. p.	vice Fitzgerald, do.